

Specification

The paragraph of the specification beginning on page 1, line 18 is hereby amended as follows:

A typical prior art head and disk system 10 is illustrated in figure 1. In operation the magnetic transducer 20 is supported by the suspension 13 as it flies above the disk 16. The magnetic transducer 20, usually called a "head" or "slider," is composed of elements that perform the task of writing magnetic transitions (the write head 23) and reading the magnetic transitions (the read head 12). The electrical signals to and from the read and write heads 12, 23 travel along conductive paths (leads) 44 14A, 14B, 15A, 15B which are attached to or embedded in the suspension 13. The magnetic transducer 20 is positioned over points at varying radial distances from the center of the disk 16 to read and write circular tracks (not shown). The disk 16 is attached to a spindle 18 that is driven by a spindle motor 24 to rotate the disk 16. The disk 16 comprises a substrate 26 on which a plurality of thin films 21 are deposited. The thin films 21 include ferromagnetic material in which the write head 23 records the magnetic transitions in which information is encoded. The thin film protective layer (not shown in Figure 1) is typically the last or outermost layer.

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The paragraph of the specification beginning on page 5, line 16 is hereby amended as follows:

Figure 2 illustrates a cross section of a magnetic thin film disk embodying the protective layer structure of the invention. The film structure illustrated contains only one magnetic layer 33 and one underlayer 31. However, the protective layer structure of the invention is not dependent on any particular underlying film structure so long as the final layer below the overcoat is conductive. The protective layer of the invention, therefore, may be used on any combination of multiple magnetic layers, underlayers and seed layers. The interface 42 between the magnetic layer 33 and the protective layer 37 is the region of the protective layer 37 that has the lowest density (indicated by the spacing of the small circles in the drawing) and the surface of the protective layer ~~37~~ 41 has the highest density.